

# Naval Research Laboratory

Washington, DC 20375-5320    NRL/PU/5230--96-293  
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## Distribution Statements for Technical Publications

## INTRODUCTION

All DoD technical documents must be reviewed for security classification and determination of releasability to a specific audience. This publication provides a quick reference guide that explains the distribution limitation statements and defines their appropriate use. Additional markings are briefly discussed.

The information in this publication is covered in more detail in OPNAVINST 5510.1H, "Procedures for Assigning Distribution Statements on Technical Documents," dated 29 April 1988 and subsequent changes; the latest being January 20, 1995; NRLNOTE 5510, "New Derivative Classification Markings Under Executive Order 12958," dated 27 November 1995; OPNAVINST 5510.161, "Withholding of Unclassified Technical Data from Public Disclosure," dated 29 July 1985; and Executive Order (EO) 12958, "Classified National Security Information" and the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Implementing Directive for Executive Order 12958, dated 14 October 1995.

## INTRODUCTION

## DISTRIBUTION STATEMENTS FOR TECHNICAL PUBLICATIONS

Reasons for imposing distribution statements	Distribution Statements						
	A	B	C	D	E	F	X
Foreign government information		X	X	X	X		
Proprietary information		X			X		
Critical technology		X	X	X	X		
Test and evaluation		X			X		
Contractor performance evaluation		X			X		
Premature dissemination		X			X		
Administrative/operational use		X	X	X	X		
Software documentation		X	X	X	X		
Specific authority (identify)		X	X	X	X		
Direct military support					X		
Public & foreign release	X						
Paragraph 4-505 of DoD 5200.1-R or other specific authority						X	
Export control of unclass. documents (private individuals)							X
<p><b>A</b> = Unlimited distribution      <b>E</b> = DoD components only</p> <p><b>B</b> = U.S. Govt agencies only      <b>F</b> = Further dissemination only as directed</p> <p><b>C</b> = U.S. Govt agencies and their contractors      <b>X</b> = Agencies, individuals, or enterprises authorized by 10 U.S.C. 140c.</p> <p><b>D</b> = DoD and DoD contractors only</p>							

More detailed information about each statement follows.

## **DISTRIBUTION STATEMENT A**

Approved for public release; distribution is unlimited.

- This statement is used only on unclassified technical publications that have been cleared for public release by competent authority.
- Technical publications resulting from contracted fundamental research efforts will normally be assigned this statement, except for those rare and exceptional circumstances where there is a high likelihood of disclosing performance characteristics of military systems, or of manufacturing technologies that are unique and critical to defense, and agreement on this situation has been recorded in the contract or grant.
- Technical publications with this statement can be exported, available, and sold to the public, foreign nationals, foreign companies, and foreign governments.
- This statement cannot be used on technical publications that were formerly classified unless these publications have been cleared for public release.
- This statement cannot be used on classified technical publications or on publications that list export-controlled technical data as provided in OPNAVINST 5510.161.

## DISTRIBUTION STATEMENT B

Distribution authorized to U.S. Government agencies only; *(fill in reason from list below)*; *(date of determination—usually matches month and year of report)*. Other requests for this document shall be referred to *(insert controlling DoD office—for NRL publications, this is usually Commanding Officer, Naval Research Laboratory, Washington, DC 20375-5320)*.

- This statement is used only on classified and unclassified technical publications if necessary to ensure distribution limitation in addition to need-to-know requirements of this regulation or in the event the publication is declassified.
- Reasons for assigning distribution statement B include:

### Foreign Government Information

*To protect and limit distribution in accordance with the desires of the foreign government that furnished the technical information. Information of this type is normally classified at a confidential level or higher.*

## **DISTRIBUTION STATEMENT B (Continued)**

### **Proprietary Information**

*To protect information not owned by the U.S. Government and protected by a contractor's limited rights statement or received with the understanding that it not to be routinely transmitted outside the U.S. Government.*

### **Critical Technology**

*To protect information and technical data that advance current technology or describe new technology in an area of significant or potentially significant military application or that relate to a specific military deficiency of a potential adversary. Information of this type may be classified or unclassified; when unclassified, it is export-controlled and subject to the provisions of OPNAVINST 5510.161.*

### **Test and Evaluation**

*To protect results of test and evaluation of commercial products or military hardware when such disclosure may cause unfair advantage or disadvantage to the manufacturer of the product.*

### **Contractor Performance Evaluation**

*To protect information in management reviews, records of contract performance evaluation, or other advisory documents evaluating programs of contractors.*

## **DISTRIBUTION STATEMENT B (Continued)**

### **Premature Dissemination**

*To protect patentable information on systems or processes in the developmental or concept stage from premature dissemination.*

### **Administrative or Operational Use**

*To protect technical or operational data or information from automatic dissemination under the International Exchange Program or by other means. This protection covers publications required solely for official use or strictly for administrative or operational purposes. This statement can be applied to manuals, pamphlets, technical orders, technical reports, and other publications containing valuable technical or operational data.*

### **Software Documentation**

*Releasable only in accordance with the provisions of SECNAVINST 5237.2 (NOTAL).*

### **Specific Authority**

*To protect information not specifically included in the above reasons and discussions, but which requires protection in accordance with valid documented authority such as Executive Orders, classification guidelines, or DoD or DoN regulations or policy guidance. When filling in the reason, cite "Specific Authority (identification of valid documented authority)."*

## **DISTRIBUTION STATEMENT B (Continued)**

**EXAMPLE:** Distribution authorized to U.S. Government agencies only; foreign government information; June 1995. Other requests for this document shall be referred to Commanding Officer, Naval Research Laboratory, Washington, DC 20375-5320.



## DISTRIBUTION STATEMENT C

Distribution authorized to U.S. Government agencies and their contractors; *(fill in reason from list below)*; *(date of determination—usually matches month and year of report)*. Other requests for this document shall be referred to *(insert controlling DoD office—for NRL publications, this is usually Commanding Officer, Naval Research Laboratory, Washington, DC 203 75-5320)*.

- This statement is used on classified and unclassified technical publications if necessary to ensure distribution limitation in addition to need-to-know requirements of this regulation or in the event the publication is declassified.
- Reasons for assigning distribution statement C include:

### Foreign Government Information

*To protect and limit distribution in accordance with the desires of the foreign government that furnished the technical information. Information of this type normally is classified at the confidential or higher level.*

### Critical Technology

*To protect information and technical data that advance current technology or describe new technology in an area of significant military application or that relate to a specific military deficiency or a potential adversary. Information of this type may be classified or unclassified; when unclassified, it is export-controlled and subject to the provisions of OPNAVINST 5510.161.*

## **DISTRIBUTION STATEMENT C (Continued)**

### **Software Documentation**

*Releasable only in accordance with the provisions of SECNAVINST 5237.2 (NOTAL).*

### **Administrative or Operational Use**

*To protect technical or operational data or information from automatic dissemination under the International Exchange Program or by other means. This protection covers publications required solely for official use or strictly for administrative or operational purposes. This statement may be applied to manuals, pamphlets, technical orders, technical reports, and other publications containing valuable technical or operational data.*

### **Specific Authority**

*To protect information not specifically included in the above reasons and discussions, but which requires protection in accordance with valid documented authority such as Executive Orders, classification guidelines, DoD or DON regulations or policy guidance. When filling in the reason, cite "Specific Authority (identification of valid documented authority)."*

**EXAMPLE:** Distribution authorized to U.S. Government agencies and their contractors; critical technology; June 1995. Other requests for this document shall be referred to Commanding Officer, Naval Research Laboratory, Washington, DC 20375-5320.

## **DISTRIBUTION STATEMENT D**

Distribution authorized to DoD and U.S. DoD contractors only; (*fill in reason from list below*); (*date of determination—usually matches year and month of report*). Other requests for this document shall be referred to (*insert controlling DoD office—for NRL publications, this is usually Commanding Officer, Naval Research Laboratory, Washington, DC 20375-5320*).

- This statement is used on classified and unclassified technical publications if necessary to ensure distribution limitation in addition to need-to-know requirements of this regulation or in the event the publication is declassified.
- Reasons for assigning distribution statement D include:

### **Foreign Government Information**

*To protect and limit distribution in accordance with the desires of the foreign government that furnished the technical information. Information of this type normally is classified at the confidential level or higher.*

### **Administrative or Operational Use**

*To protect technical or operational data or information from automatic dissemination under the Internal Exchange Program or by other means. This protection covers publications required solely for official use or strictly for administrative or operational purposes. This statement may be applied to manuals, pamphlets, technical orders, technical reports, and other publications containing valuable technical or operation data.*

## **DISTRIBUTION STATEMENT D (Continued)**

### **Software Documentation**

*Releasable only in accordance with the provisions of SECNAVINST 5237.2 (NOTAL).*

### **Critical Technology**

*To protect information and technical data that advance current technology or describe new technology in an area of significant military application or that relate to a specific military deficiency or a potential adversary. Information of this type may be classified or unclassified; when unclassified, it is export-controlled and subject to the provisions of OPNAVINST 5510.161.*

### **Specific Authority**

*To protect information not specifically included in the above reasons and discussions, but which requires protection in accordance with valid documented authority such as Executive Orders, classification guidelines, DoD or DoN regulations or policy guidance. When filling in the reason, cite "Specific Authority (identification of valid documented authority)."*

**EXAMPLE:** Distribution authorized to DoD and U.S. DoD contractors only; foreign government information; June 1995. Other requests for this document shall be referred to Commanding Officer, Naval Research Laboratory, Washington, DC 20375-5320.

## DISTRIBUTION STATEMENT E

Distribution authorized to DoD components only; *(fill in reason from list below); (date of determination—usually matches month and year of report)*. Other requests for this document shall be referred to *(insert controlling DoD office—for NRL publications, this is usually Commanding Officer, Naval Research Laboratory, Washington, DC 20375-5320)*.

- This statement is used on classified and unclassified technical publications if necessary to ensure distribution limitation in addition to need-to-know requirements of this regulation or in the event the publication is declassified.
- Reasons for assigning distribution statement E include:

### Direct Military Support

*The document contains export-controlled technical data of such military significance that release for purposes other than direct support of DoD-approved activities may jeopardize an important technological or operational military advantage of the United States. Designation of such data is made by competent authority in accordance with OPNAVINST 5510.161.*

### Foreign Government Information

*To protect and limit distribution in accordance with the desires of the foreign government that furnished the technical information. Information of this type normally is classified at the confidential level or higher.*

## **DISTRIBUTION STATEMENT E (Continued)**

### **Proprietary Information**

*To protect information not owned by U.S. Government and protected by a contractor's "limited rights" statement, or received with the understanding that it not be routinely transmitted outside the U.S. Government.*

### **Premature Dissemination**

*To protect patentable information on systems or processes in the developmental or concept stage from premature dissemination.*

### **Test and Evaluation**

*To protect results of test and evaluation of commercial products or military hardware when such disclosure may cause unfair advantage or disadvantage to the manufacture of the product.*

### **Software Documentation**

*Releasable only in accordance with the provisions of SECNAVINST 5237.2 (NOTAL).*

### **Contractor Performance Evaluation**

*To protect information in management reviews, records of contract performance evaluation, or other advisory documents evaluating programs of contractors.*

## **DISTRIBUTION STATEMENT E (Continued)**

### **Critical Technology**

*To protect information and technical data that advance current technology or describe new technology in an area of significant military application or that relate to a specific military deficiency or a potential adversary. Information of this type may be classified or unclassified; when unclassified, it is export-controlled and subject to the provisions of OPNAVINST 5510.161.*

### **Administrative or Operational Use**

*To protect technical or operational data or information from automatic dissemination under the Internal Exchange Program or by other means. This protection covers publications required solely for official use or strictly for administrative or operational purposes. This statement may be applied to manuals, pamphlets, technical orders, technical reports, and other publications containing valuable technical or operation data.*

### **Specific Authority**

*To protect information not specifically included in the above reasons and discussions, but which requires protection in accordance with valid documented authority such as Executive Orders, classification guidelines, DoD or DON regulations or policy guidance. When filling in the reason, cite "Specific Authority (identification of valid documented authority)."*

**EXAMPLE:** Distribution authorized to the DoD components only; direct military support; June 1995. Other requests for this document shall be referred to Commanding Officer, Naval Research Laboratory, Washington, DC 20375-5320.

## DISTRIBUTION STATEMENT F

Further dissemination only as directed by (*insert controlling DoD office—for NRL publications, this is usually Commanding Officer, Naval Research Laboratory, Washington, DC 20375-5320*); (*date of determination—usually matches month and year of report*); or higher DoD authority.

- This statement is normally used only on classified technical publications, but may be used on unclassified technical publications when specific authority exists.
- This statement is used when the DoD originator determines that the information is subject to special dissemination limitations specified in OPNAVINST 5510.1H.
- When a classified publication assigned distribution statement F is declassified, the statement will be retained until the originating command assigns the proper distribution statement.

**EXAMPLE:** Further dissemination only as directed by Commanding Officer, Naval Research Laboratory, Washington, DC 20375-5320; June 1995; or higher DoD authority.



## DISTRIBUTION STATEMENT X

Distribution authorized to U.S. Government agencies and private individuals or enterprises eligible to obtain export-controlled technical data in accordance with OPNAVINST 5510.161, reference (jj); (*date of determination—usually matches the report date*). Other requests for this document shall be referred to originating command (*insert originating DoD office—for NRL publications, this is usually Commanding Officer, Naval Research Laboratory, Washington, DC 20375-5320*).

- This statement is used on unclassified publications when distribution statements B, C, D, E, or F are not applicable, but the publication does contain technical data as explained in OPNAVINST 5510.161, reference (jj).
- This statement cannot be used on classified technical publications; however, it may be assigned to technical publications that formerly were classified.

**EXAMPLE:** Distribution authorized to U.S. Government agencies and private individuals or enterprises eligible to obtain export-controlled technical data in accordance with OPNAVINST 5510.161, reference (jj); June 1995. Other requests for this document shall be referred to Commanding Officer, Naval Research Laboratory, Washington, DC 20375-5320.

The following information should also appear on the cover above the distribution statement and on the Standard Form 298 in the “Supplementary Notes” block.

### **Export Control Warning**

All technical material to be distributed must also be reviewed for export controls; this includes military critical technology. If the material contains information that cannot be exported without an export license, the following statement, in addition to any distribution statement, must be used:

***WARNING—This document contains technical data whose export is restricted by the Arms Export Control Act (Title 22, U.S.C., Sec 2751, et seq.) or the Export Administration Act of 1979, as amended, Title 50, U.S.C., App. 2401, et seq. Violations of these export laws are subject to severe criminal penalties. Disseminate in accordance with provisions of OPNAVINST 5510.161.***

When it is not technically feasible to use the entire statement, abbreviated marking may be used, and a copy of the full statement added to the “Notice to Accompany Release of Export-Controlled Data” required by OPNAVINST 5510.161.

## CONTRACTOR-IMPOSED STATEMENT

When contractors have proprietary technical data to which the Government is given limited rights, the contractor will put a limited rights statement on each publication containing contractor-controlled technical data furnished to the Government. This limited rights information can only be assigned distribution statements B, E, or F.

Limited rights is defined as the right to use, duplicate, or disclose technical data in whole or in part, by or for the U.S. Government with the expressed limitation that such technical data, without the written permission of the party furnishing the technical data, may not be:

- a. Released or disclosed in whole or in part outside the Government.
- b. Used in whole or in part by the Government for manufacture, or in the case of computer software documentation, for reproduction of the computer software.
- c. Used by a party other than the Government, except for:
  - (1) Emergency repair or overhaul work only by or for the Government, when the item or process concerned is not otherwise reasonably available to enable timely performance of the work, provided that the release or disclosure outside the Government will be made subject to a prohibition against further use, release or disclosure, or
  - (2) Release to a foreign government, as the interest of the United States may require, only for information or evaluation within the foreign government or for emergency repair or overhaul work by or for the foreign government under the conditions of subparagraph (1).

The limited rights statement remains in effect until changed or cancelled under contract terms or with the permission of the contractor and the controlling office notifies recipients of the document that the statement has been changed or cancelled. Upon cancellation of the limited rights statement, the distribution, disclosure, or release of the technical document will then be controlled by its security classification or, if it is unclassified, by assignment of the appropriate Distribution Statement.

## **ADDITIONAL MARKINGS**

In addition to the seven distribution statements that are used to control the distribution of technical information, other markings further limit distribution or provide warning information. These markings are placed on the cover, Report Documentation Page (Standard Form 298), and the title page of the publication. If one of these markings is used, pertinent information must be contained somewhere in the text.

### **DISSEMINATION AND EXTRACTION OF INFORMATION CONTROLLED BY ORIGINATOR**

- This marking is used, with a security classification, so the originator will have continuing knowledge and supervision of the use made of the information. This marking is used only on intelligence that clearly identifies or would reasonably permit ready identification of an intelligence source or method that is particularly susceptible to countermeasures. This marking is not used when an item of information would reasonably be protected by use of other markings, or by the application of the “need-to-know” principle and the safeguarding procedures of the security classification system.
- Information bearing this marking is not disseminated beyond the headquarters elements of the recipient agencies and may not be incorporated in whole or in part into other reports or briefings without the advance permission of and under conditions specified by the originator. At the discretion of the originator, the term “headquarters elements” may include specified subordinate intelligence-producing components. Because this is the most restrictive marking, it is applied only to particularly sensitive intelligence. Timely procedures must be established to review requests for further dissemination of intelligence bearing this marking. The short form of this marking is “ORCON”; the abbreviated form is “OC.”

## **ADDITIONAL MARKINGS**

## **ADDITIONAL MARKINGS (Continued)**

### **CAUTION-PROPRIETARY INFORMATION INVOLVED**

*This marking is used, with or without a security classification, to identify information provided by a commercial firm or private source under an express or implied understanding that the information will be protected as a trade secret or proprietary data believed to have actual or potential value. Information bearing this marking will not be disseminated in any form without the permission of the originator to an individual, organization, or foreign government that has any interests, actual or potential, in competition with the source of the information. The short form of this marking is "PROPIN"; the abbreviated form is "PR."*

### **AUTHORIZED FOR RELEASE TO (Name(s) of Country(ies)/international organization(s))**

*This marking is used to identify classified intelligence that an originator has predetermined to be releasable or has released, through established foreign disclosure procedures and channels, to the foreign country(ies)/organization(s) indicated. No other foreign dissemination of the material is authorized without the permission of the originator. This marking may be abbreviated "REL TO (abbreviated name(s) of country(ies)/organization(s))."*

### **FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY (FOUO)**

*FOUO is placed on documents to alert the holder that they contain information that may be withheld under exemptions (b)(2) through (b)(9) of the FOIA. Because FOUO is not a security classification, exemption (b)(1) does not apply. Information in a technical document that requires a distribution statement under reference (i) shall bear that statement and may be marked FOUO, as appropriate.*

### **NATO**

*Any NRL document containing NATO information must include a statement on the cover or first page, "THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS NATO INFORMATION."*

## **ADDITIONAL MARKINGS (Continued)**

### **DERIVED FROM**

“Derived From” replaces the “Classified By” line. On the “Derived From” line, cite the security classification guide or source document.

### **“X1” THROUGH “X8”**

Use a 10-year automatic declassification exemption category(ies) marking “X1” through “X8” to replace “Originating Agency’s Determination Required” (“OADR”) as the duration shown in the “Declassify On” line; pending issuance of updated security classification guidance in the Department of the Navy “RANKIN” Program guides, OPNAVINSTS C5513.2 through 5513.15 (NOTALs). This duration is shown in the “Declassify On” line and on this line state the date or event (which must be less than 10 years from the origination date of the document) for declassification or state the 10-year automatic declassification exemption category(ies) listed below.

#### **X1**

*Intelligence source, method, or activity, or a cryptologic system or activity*

#### **X2**

*Information that would assist in the development or use of weapons of mass destruction*

#### **X3**

*Information that would impair the development or use of technology within a United States weapons system*

#### **X4**

*United States military plans, or national security emergency preparedness plans*

## **ADDITIONAL MARKINGS (Continued)**

### **X5**

*Foreign government information*

### **X6**

*Information that would damage relations between the United States and a foreign government, reveal a confidential source, or seriously undermine diplomatic activities that are reasonably expected to be ongoing*

### **X7**

*Information that would impair the ability of responsible United States Government officials to protect the President, the Vice President, and other individuals for whom protection services, in the interest of national security, are authorized*

### **X8**

*Information that would violate a statute, treaty, or international agreement*

**EXAMPLE:** Derived From: OPNAVINST S5513.6D-11  
Declassify On: 12 Jan. 2003

**EXAMPLE:** Derived From: CNO (N10) Ltr Ser 6S123456  
of Jan. 96  
Declassify On: Upon Completion of Project BIG  
JUMP

**EXAMPLE:** Derived From: COMDESRON FIFTEEN 261023Z  
Dec. 95  
Declassify On: X4

**EXAMPLE:** Derived From: CNO (N10) Report 7-97 "Operation BIG  
JUMP"  
Declassify On: X1, X4

**EXAMPLE:** Derived From: Multiple Sources  
Declassify On: X1, X3, X5

**EXAMPLE:** Classified By: Commanding Officer, NRL  
Declassify On: X1

Approved for public release; distribution unlimited.

APPROVED AND REVIEWED

November 1996

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert H. May", with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Head, Technical Information Division